



How to Correctly clean corrosion from a MacBook Pro logic board.

Please keep in mind that correctly cleaning your logic board after a liquid spill is only one step in repairing MacBook water damage.

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Cleaning your MacBooks Logic Board after a liquid spill.



INTRODUCTION

Please keep in mind that correctly cleaning your logic board after a liquid spill may NOT solve your issue, even one failed capacitor or broken solder joint can be the end of the road for the average DIYer.

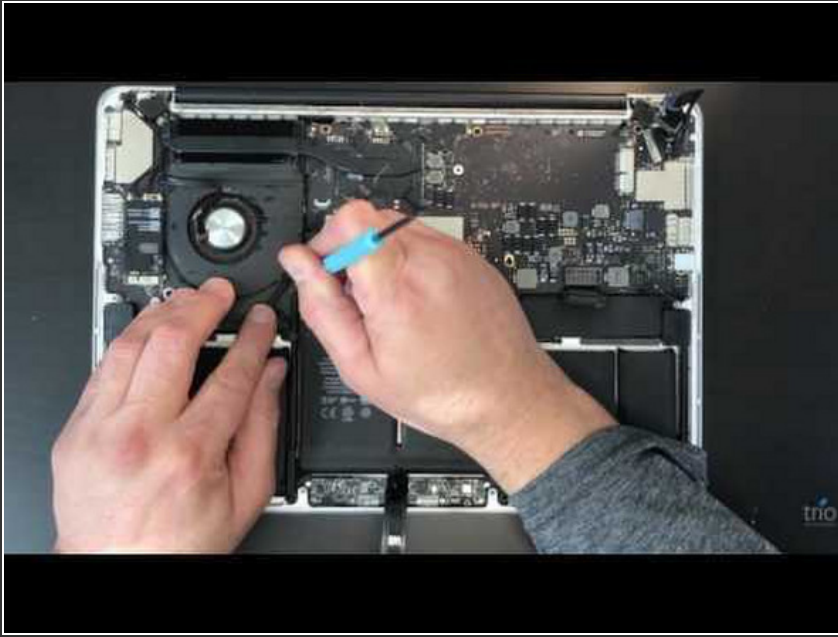
However in some cases this process will pave the way for a complete MacBook restoration.



TOOLS:

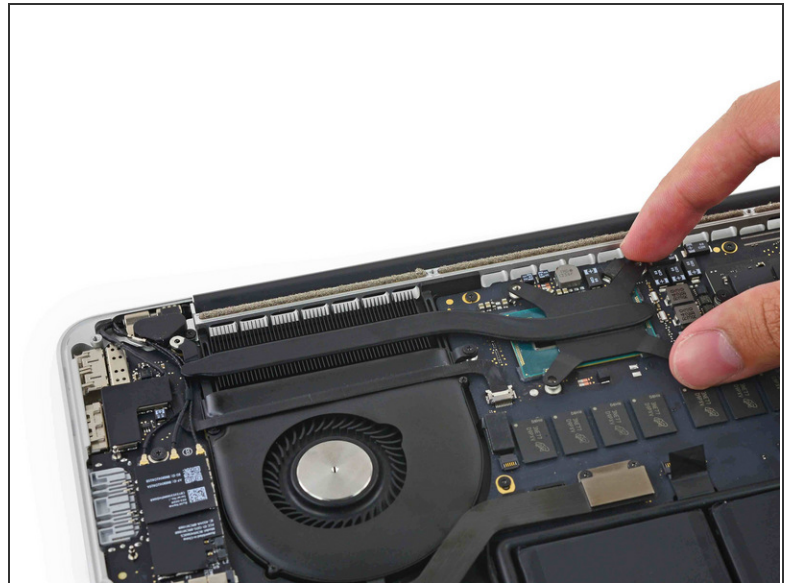
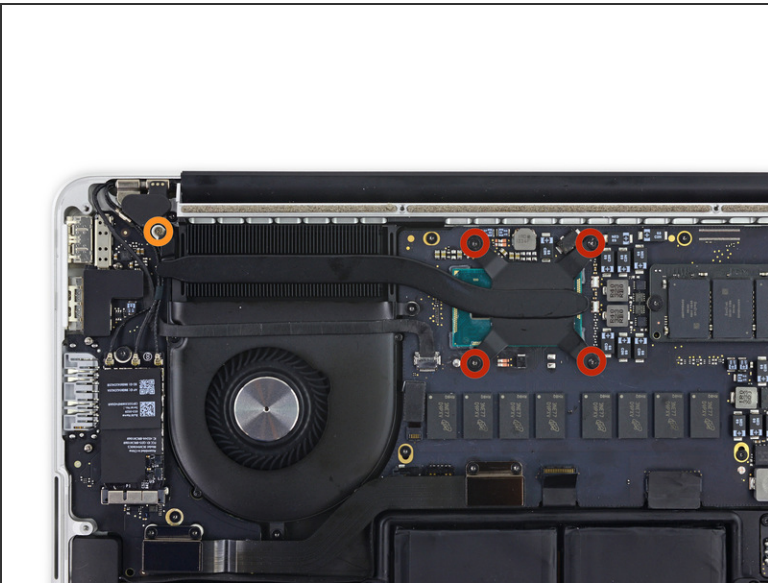
- [Ultra Sonic Cleaner](#) (1)
 - [99% Isopropyl Alcohol](#) (1)
 - [Pro Tech Toolkit](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Remove your MacBooks Main Logic Board



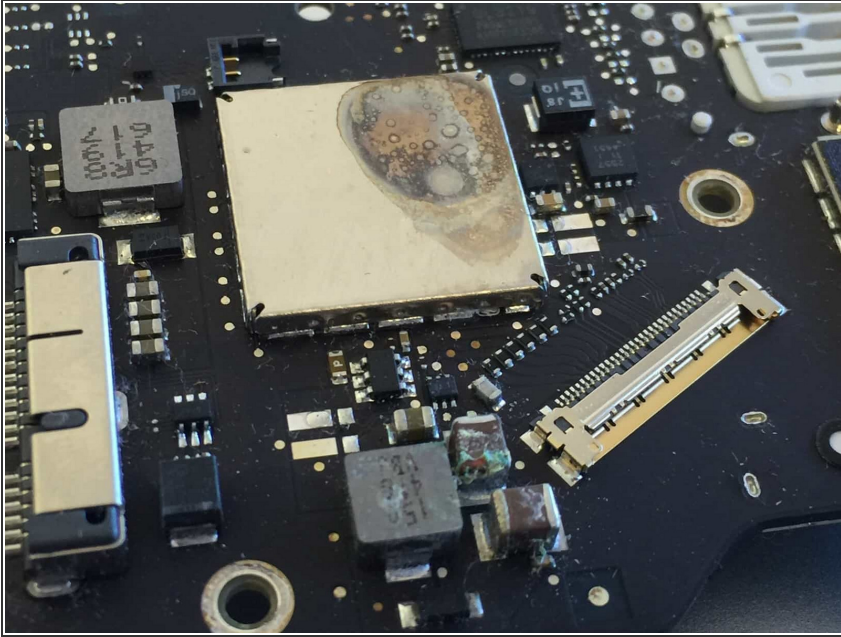
- Your first step is to remove your MacBooks main Logic Board, this process will vary from model to model and the guides are readily available on iFixit. For this example we will be disassembling an A1502 MacBook Pro w/ Force Touch.

Step 2 — Remove the heat sink and thermal paste.



- Next, we are going to remove the heat sink and thermal paste. Again this step will vary slightly from model to model but is important to ensure proper cleaning.

Step 3 — Clean the obvious corrosion.



- Place the MLB on a lint free towel and begin to carefully remove any visible corrosion with a tooth brush and 99% Isopropyl alcohol. AT this point I would take pictures of the affected areas before cleaning so you have an idea of where to start diagnostics once the board has been cleaned.

Step 4 — Ultrasonic bath - NOT OPTIONAL - Turn your volume down



- Placing the board in an ultrasonic bath for 15 minutes at 40c with some type of electronics safe detergent will ensure that corrosion that is not visible to the naked eye will be removed. Electricity is the catalyst for corrosion, even a small amount left untreated can come back to bite you. In my opinion a toothbrush and alcohol alone is risky.

Step 5 — Rinse and allow to dry.



- Place the logic board in a shallow bath of 99% alcohol for a few minutes to displace the water from the ultrasonic bath. Use canned air or and electric air gun to blow the board dry.

Step 6 — Inspection, Inspection and more Inspection.



- If you have a stereo microscope you should go over the board to look for damaged components or broken solder joints. If no microscope is available this would be a good time to loosely reassemble the unit and see if you have a good result. If the unit has visible issues board level you may want to consider finding a professional repair option.

Step 7 — Test and keep testing until you get the result you want.



- Like we said in the beginning, getting the MLB up and running is likely one of several steps required to restore a MacBook after a liquid spill. We hope this guide was helpful, Good Luck.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

This document was last generated on 2017-10-21 05:02:27 PM.